

### **REMARKS**

The following remarks are in response to the Examiner's Office Communication mailed October 6, 2004 and in further response to the Examiner's Office Action mailed March 24, 2004. Claims 20 and 32-46 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 25-28 and 47-50 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-19, 21-24 and 29-31 are now pending.

In the Office Communication the Examiner states that Applicants' amendment filed on June 30, 2004 contains incorrect status identifiers for claims 3-8, 10-11 and 13-17 which should have been identified as "original". Applicants correct the status identifiers for these claims as directed by the Examiner. Applicants also correct the status identifiers for claims 25-28 as "withdrawn" because they were withdrawn from consideration in the Examiner's Office Action mailed March 24, 2004.


### **CONCLUSION**

In light of the remarks and arguments set forth above, Applicants earnestly believe that they are entitled to a letters patent, and respectfully solicit the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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